

REMARKS

After entering the above amendments, claims 1-19 and 22 will be pending. Reconsideration and allowance of the current application are requested in light of the above-marked amendments and the foregoing remarks.

Summary of Amendments. With this amendment, claims 1, 10, 11, 15, 16 and 22 have been amended. The amendments are fully supported by the original specification.

Request for Interview

Applicant respectfully requests a telephonic interview with the Examiner to discuss the presently pending claims, as amended by this amendment and request for continued examination, and the currently cited prior art references. The undersigned will contact the Examiner to establish a convenient time and date for such an interview.

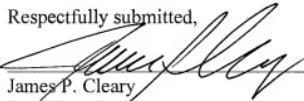
CONCLUSION

On the basis of the foregoing amendments, the pending claims are in condition for allowance. It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper.

Applicant is concurrently filing herewith a Request for Continued Examination with the requisite fee, authorization for a credit card payment of the filing fee is submitted herewith. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the additional claim fee and any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 34874-135/2002P00117WOU. If there are any questions regarding this reply, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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